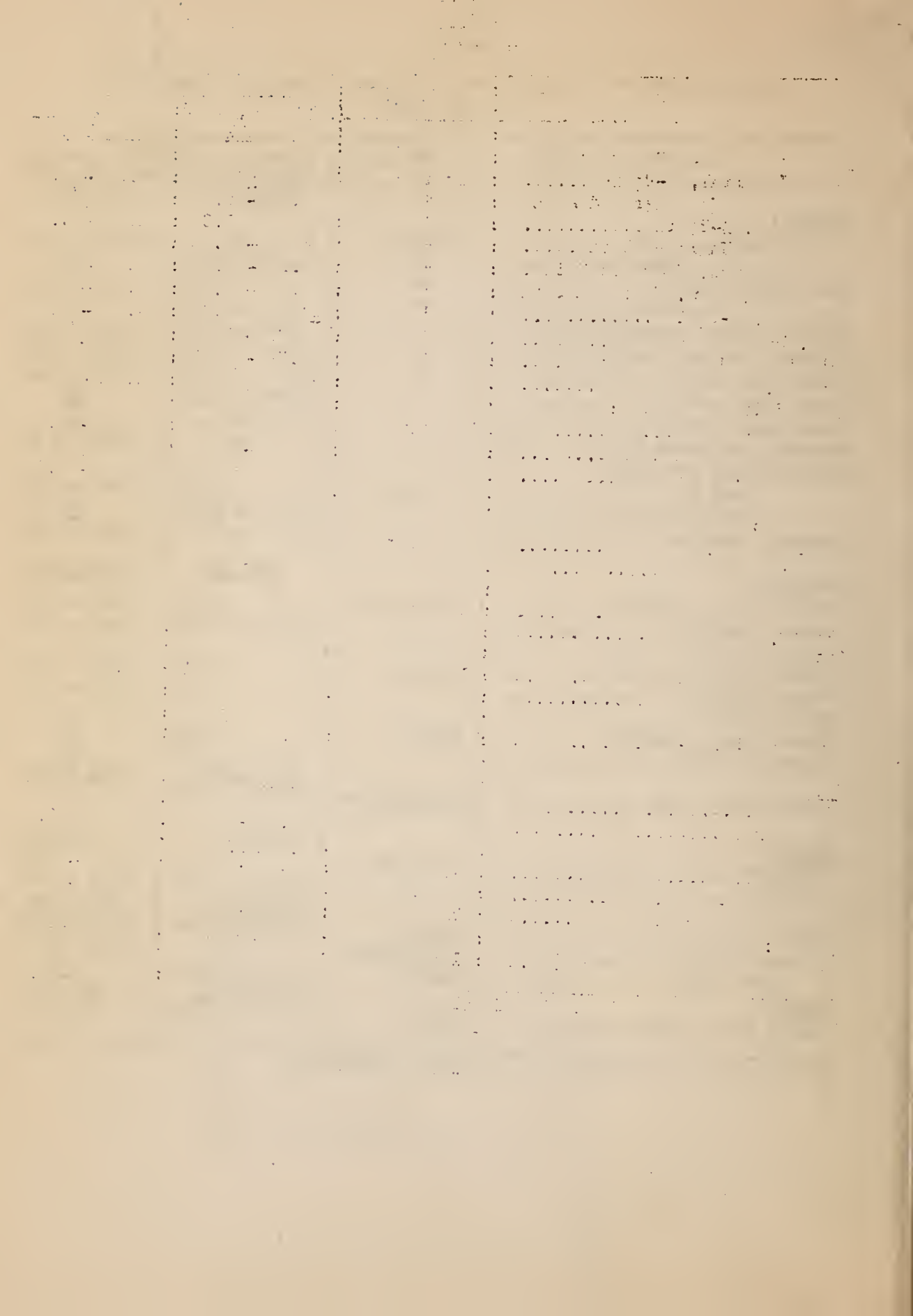


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FOREIGN NEWS ON APPLES

OUTLOOK FOR AMERICAN APPLES IN CONTINENTAL EUROPE

Apple imports into Hamburg, Germany, are expected to be from 30 to 50 per cent greater this season than last on account of reduced continental supplies, according to a cable from Mr. Edwin Smith, the Department's Fruit Specialist in Europe. German home grown apples are scarce and high priced this year and only fair in quality. Supplies of apples from Czechoslovakia and the Italian Tyrol thus far have been light. Continental pears are likewise scarce on the Hamburg market. The German demand should also be strengthened by the improved economic conditions.

In the Scandinavian markets the apple outlook varies. In Denmark conditions are similar to those prevailing in Germany in that the domestic crop is short and continental supplies are low. General economic conditions in Denmark, however, are unsatisfactory and since this condition has now prevailed for some months it may be expected to have an adverse effect upon the importation of apples. In Sweden and Norway, in contrast to the Danish situation, home grown apples are plentiful and cheap this year. The demand for American apples in these markets will be materially affected by the domestic supplies during the remainder of the year. Supplies of home grown pears are plentiful as are also supplies of Czechoslovakian and other continental pears. The Scandinavian demand is being strengthened by the good condition of the refrigerated cargoes of apples arriving on Panama ships. It is probable, however, that the total imports into the Scandinavian markets will be slightly less than last year.

The arrival of Spanish grapes in poor condition is strengthening the demand for apples in continental markets, states Mr. Smith. The Spanish grape crop is reported to be much lighter than last year and this is borne out by the fact that only small quantities are now arriving in European markets and are bringing high prices in spite of immature condition.

In general the prospects are favorable for considerable importations of American apples into European markets but lower prices are likely to be realized, says Mr. Smith, who has just returned to England from a trip through northwestern Europe.

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